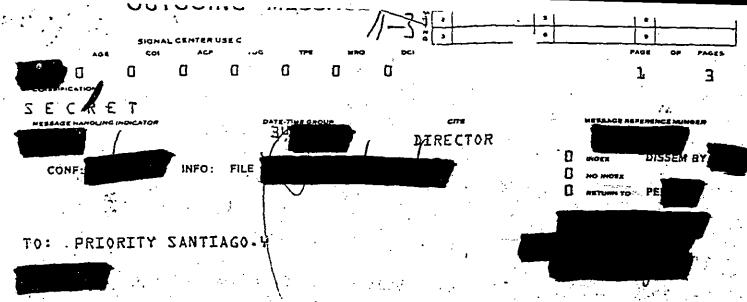
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Declassified and Approved for Release July 2000

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- THE PURPOSE OF THIS CABLE IS TO INITIATE A DIALOGUE WITH THE 1. STATION ON THE PRESENT SITUATION IN CHILE, AND TO EXPLORE WHAT STEPS WE COULD TAKE TO EXERT SOME POSITIVE INFLUENCE ON INTERNAL DEVELOPMENTS - Y
- IT APPEARS TO US THAT THERE ARE THREE PRINCIPAL PROBLEM AREAS: APPARENT DETERMINATION OF THE JUNTA TO PERPETUATE ITSELF IN POWER, AN ECONOMIC SITUATION WHICH IS HAVING AN ESPECIALLY ADVERSE EFFECT ON THE LOWER INCOME GROUPS, AND THE SUBJECT OF HUMAN RIGHTS THE LATTER, OF COURSE, HAS BEEN MOST ACUTE DURING RECENT MONTHS AND HAS BEEN THE SUBJECT OF EMBASSY AND STATION REPORTING. THE ACTIONS WHICH THE GOVERNMENT IS TAKING, OR PLANS TO TAKE, TO IMPROVE THE SITUATION ARE MOST WELCOME, BUT THESE ARE NEVERTHELESS COME LIMITED MEASURES AND THE PROBLEM REMAINS. HUMAN RIGHTS WILL CONTINUE TO BE AN ISSUE UNTIL THE GOVERNMENT RESOLVES ITS IMMEDIATE DIFFICULTIES CONCERNING THE MISSING PERSONS AND ITS ACTIONS TOWARDS THE UNIVERSITIES AND ENFORCES A CLEAR CUT POLICY BACKED UP BY LEGAL

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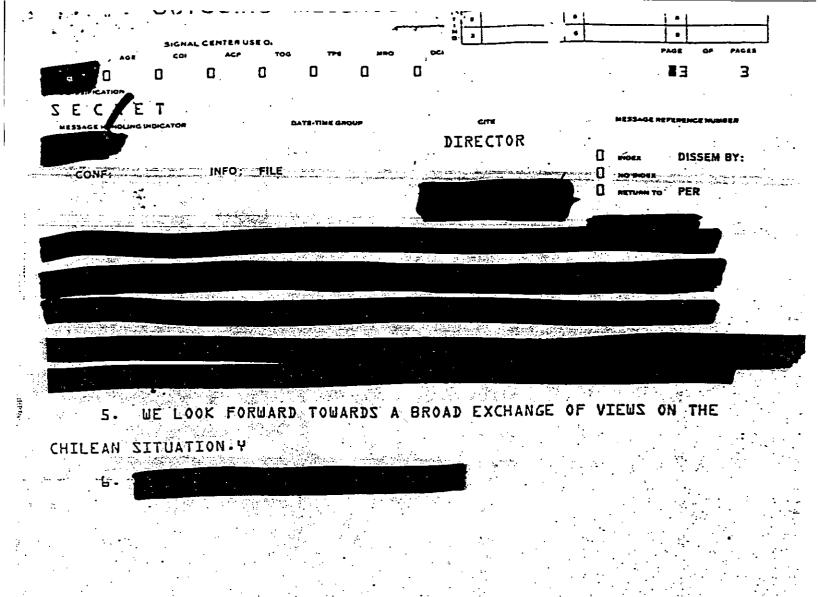
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3. AS A START, WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR VIEWS ON THE FOLLOWING: IS THERE ANY TALK AMONG THE MILITARY TOWARDS AN EVENDTUAL TIMETABLE FOR RETURN OF THE COUNTRY TO CIVILIAN RULE, OR AT LEAST, GRADUALLY BRING IN MORE CIVILIAN PARTICIPATION IN THE GOVERNMENT? ANY CHANCES FOR A MORE EQUITABLE ECONOMIC APPROACH THROUGH COLLABORA TION BETWEEN NEW PDC LEADERS AND THE ARMED FORCES? ANY BASIS AT ALL ON WHICH THE PDC AND THE ARMED FORCES COULD BE MOVED TOWARDS COLLABORATION? WHAT ACTIONS COULD BE TAKEN TO HEAD OFF SOME OF THE PROBLEMS WHICH THE GOVERNMENT MUST EVENTUALLY FACE ON THE SOCIAL LEVEL THROUGH ITS ECONOMIC AUSTERITY PROGRAM? MODERATING OR CONSTRUCTIVE ROLE COULD THE PN BRING TO BEAR ON THE JUNTA? WHAT ARE EDUARDO FREI'S CHANCES OF EVER AGAIN BECOMING A MATIONAL POLITICAL LEADER? CAN HE MAINTAIN HIS CONSTROL OVER THE PDC. IF NOT, WHO IS LIKELY TO SUCCEED HIM? IS THERE ANY CHANCE THAT THE CHILEAN ARMED FORCES COULD REPLACE PINOCHET WITH A MORE MODERATE

MILITARY FIGURE?Y

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